Soroptimist International Murray Bridge article to the MV Standard Sept15

Murray Bridge Soroptimists, and 'Soroptimistas' had their shoulders hard to the wheel Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup> at their annual wine bottling at Bleasdale winery at Langhorne Creek. Over 120 dozen bottles of white and red wines raised a tidy sum for the Club to put towards local projects in Murray Bridge. While the wines are popular the newly designed label featuring South Australia's Sturt's Desert Pea is a winner.

President Bronwyn Heard inducted a new member, Karen Eckermann, on September 3<sup>rd</sup> who shared aspects of her very interesting life's journey including being a very strong champion for the Animal Liberation Movement as a teenager. Karen is an Elected Member of the Rural City of Murray Bridge who continues to be a tireless advocate on issues of justice and human rights violations particularly for women.

Well known Murray Bridge Family Therapist of over 25 years, Linda Martin, was the guest speaker at that meeting. Linda spoke to the Soroptimists about the impact of domestic violence on families in general and the profound impact on women and particularly children. One message that Linda left us with was the fact that there is always hope for those experiencing domestic violence.

The Soroptimist club in Murray Bridge continues to be very active in supporting a variety of local projects. This year our Club has supported the printing of 7.000 copies of a Domestic Violence Information booklet which will be distributed thoughout the Murray Bridge community and beyond. The booklet is a handy resource for families who are experiencing domestic violence plus organisations and agencies in our community as well as the general public. Information in the booklet covers a wide range of topics including indicators of domestic violence, why women find it hard to leave, safety issues for the family including the children and services available in our region to contact for assistance. A launch for this valuable booklet is expected by the end of the year

For more information or to register your interest in attending a meeting contact Annette Korzeba on 0411306878 or <a href="mailto:korzeba@gotalk.net.au">korzies@gotalk.net.au</a>